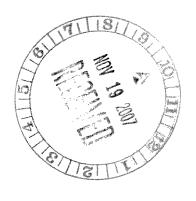


Johnson-Ball

November 13, 2007

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20423-0001





Re: Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation – Control – EJ&E West Company (STB Finance Docket No. 35087)

## VERIFIED STATEMENT OF Timothy R. Sheehy On behalf of Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce

My name is Tim Sheehy and I am President of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce (MMAC). The MMAC is a business membership organization serving Milwaukee, Waukesha, Ozaukee and Washington Counties with members throughout the State of Wisconsin. I joined the association staff in 1983 as director of governmental affairs, was named vice president of business development in 1988, executive vice president of operations in 1989, executive vice president of the MMAC in 1991 and President in 1993. Prior to joining the association, I worked as a legislative assistant to Rep. F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., in Washington D.C and was the recipient of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Congressional Internship.

In addition to my duties as President of the MMAC, I also am chairman of the Milwaukee Development Corporation, and vice-chair of the Wisconsin Policy Research Institute, and the WI Procurement Institute. I serve on numerous boards in the community including as Chairman of the Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation, Summerfest, Medical College of Wisconsin Research Foundation, Milwaukee College Preparatory School, the United Way, and the Alliance for Choices in Education.

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I am writing to inform you that the MMAC strongly supports CN's acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern (EJ&E). We have had a long and successful working relationship with CN and its predecessor railroads. In our view, this transaction is a good deal for all stakeholders.

Our numerous manufacturers and other industries in the Milwaukee area and in Wisconsin depend on good transportation and freight rail plays a major role in their success. However, quite often the railroads serving our shippers encounter severe congestion in the Chicago region and that has an impact on our companies. CN's acquisition of certain EJ&E assets is an important step toward improving that situation. The acquisition will more efficiently link CN's rail traffic coming in and out of Wisconsin. Without question, our rail shippers will benefit from the streamlined rail operations and reduced congestion resulting over time, as well as the new efficiencies and operating improvements the acquisition will bring to CN's network. We also understand that many of these upgrades to the system are among the goals of the CREATE project around Chicago and that CN's acquisition and integration of the EJ&E will have the effect of advancing a number of CREATE's objectives more quickly.

In addition, the acquisition will be another step forward in CN's long-term commitment to reduce costs, improve service and to provide customers with more single-line market opportunities.

Finally, we urge the STB to categorizes this acquisition as a minor transaction and approve it, so that Milwaukee and Wisconsin businesses can begin realizing the benefits of this transaction as soon as possible.

Because of the numerous benefits that this acquisition will provide, the MMAC strongly supports the application.

Sincerely,

Drosidant

President

## **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF Wisconsin )
COUNTY OF Milwaukee )

Timothy Sheehy, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that (he/she) has read the foregoing document, knows the facts asserted therein, and that the same are true as stated.

(Timoth Sheeby)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2007.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

12/24/10

PATRICE MARSHALL